

Hartlepool Port Health Authority

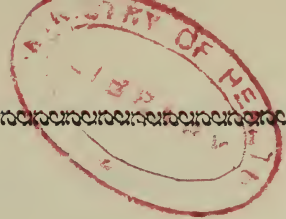
Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

*For the Year ended 31st December,
1939*

By ARNOLD S. L. BIGGART,
M.B., Ch.B.



Hartlepool Port Health Authority.

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

*For the Year ended 31st December,
1939*

By ARNOLD S. L. BIGGART,

M.B., Ch.B.

Hartlepool Port Health Authority, 1940.

CHAIRMAN - F. J. CARR, J.P.

Elected by West Hartlepool Corporation :

- A. HYDE, J.P., Kenmara, Park Road, West Hartlepool.
E. BLOOM, Castlewood, Elm Grove, West Hartlepool.
J. FENWICK, Holly Mount, Wooler Rd., West Hartlepool.
T. GREEN, 27 Park Road, West Hartlepool.
W. CHARLTON, Bank House, Victoria Road, West Hartlepool.
J. MIDDLETON, J.P., 22 Tennyson Avenue, West Hartlepool.
J. W. MILLER, 46 Raby Road, West Hartlepool.
P. M. WILLIAMS, Beechburn, Fernwood Avenue, West Hartlepool.
T. W. PINKNEY, 78 Church Street, West Hartlepool.
O. LUPTON (Mayor), Exchange Vaults, George Street, West Hartlepool.

Elected by Hartlepool Corporation :

- F. J. CARR, J.P., Piercliffe, St. Hilda Street, Hartlepool.
R. H. DAVISON, J.P., Albion Terrace, Hartlepool.
C. CHAMBERS, 86 Hart Road, Hartlepool.
J. STEVENSON, 8 Gibb Square, Hartlepool.
J. METCALF, 55 Arch Street, Hartlepool.

Fixed Days of Meeting :

At the Municipal Buildings, West Hartlepool.

Feb. 15th, 1940	June 20th, 1940	Nov. 21st, 1940
April 18th, 1940	Sept. 19th, 1940	Dec. 12th, 1940

Each day at 3-0 p.m.

Finance and Port Committees :

All the Members of the Authority are Members of these Committees. The Committees meet at 2-45 p.m. on the same day as the bi-monthly meeting is held.

Officers :

Clerk : C. GILBERT BUNTING, Solicitor, Exchange Building, 66 Church Street, West Hartlepool. Telephone No. 2850
Medical Officer : A. S. L. BIGGART, M.B., Ch.B., 116 Scarborough Street, West Hartlepool. Telephone No. 3044
Deputy Medical Officer : L. J. STONE, M.B., Ch.B., 116 Scarborough Street, West Hartlepool. Telephone No. 3044
Surveyor : F. DURKIN, A.M.I.C.E., Municipal Buildings, West Hartlepool.
Inspector : E. V. ABBEY, Cert.R.S.I., Master Mariner, 30 Town Wall, Hartlepool. Telephone No. 6052
Deputy Inspector : G. A. WARD, Cestria, Gladstone Street, Hartlepool.
Rat Catcher : G. Menhennet, 62 Howard Street, Hartlepool,

ANNUAL REPORT.

WEST HARTLEPOOL,

FEBRUARY, 1940.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Hartlepool Port Health Authority.

Gentlemen,

In compliance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1939.

As you will see, the Report is much smaller than in previous years. A considerable number of records, concerning shipping entering the Port, are not published. This is for obvious reasons and is upon instructions issued last month by the Ministry.

I am pleased to state that no cases of Infectious Disease have occurred on vessels entering the Port.

Under the International Sanitary Convention of Paris and the Deratisation of Ships Regulations 71 Deratisation Exemption Certificates and 4 Deratisation Certificates have been issued. This compares with a total of 70 Certificates issued in 1938 and 105 in 1937.

During the year 204 rats have been destroyed on vessels. This is considerably less than the previous year in which 354 were accounted for. There has been no evidence of mortality amongst rats when vessels have been searched.

In my opinion there has been a considerable improvement as regards the hygiene and cleanliness of crews' quarters.

The work carried out by your Inspector, his Deputy and the Rat Catcher has been to my entire satisfaction and the Inspector's work is given in detail in the report.

In conclusion I desire to express my thanks for the valuable assistance given to me by the Chief Preventive Officer of H.M. Customs and his Staff, to Captain Chapman and his Assistant Dock Masters, to the Board of Trade Surveyor, and also to the Pilot Master and Pilots for their hearty co-operation with the Officials of this Authority.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ARNOLD S. L. BIGGART,

Port Medical Officer of Health.

1. NUMBER OF VESSELS INSPECTED IN THE PORT DURING THE YEAR 1939.

Table A. (*Ministry of Health.*)

	Number inspected		Number reported to be Defective	No. of Vessels on which defects were remedied	Number of vessels reported as having or having had, during the voyage infectious diseases on board
	By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Health Inspector			
From Foreign	17	460	33	29	—
From Coastwise...	15	1062	24	22	—
Total Foreign and Coastwise	32	1522	57	51	—

II. SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY.

(a) **For the Port.** The port is supplied by the Hartlepool Gas and Water Company.

(b) **For Shipping.** Ships are supplied from the mains through hydrants from the several quays or wharves where the service is laid on.

(c) **Number of Water Boats and their Sanitary Conditions.** There are no water boats in use for shipping in the Hartlepool.

The water is very hard but of excellent quality. It is obtained from springs and catchment basins.

III. PORT SANITARY REGULATIONS, 1933.

Paragraphs 1 to 11 as printed in previous Reports.

TABLE C. (*Ministry of Health.*)**Cases of Infectious Sickness landed from Vessels.**

No cases of Infectious Sickness were landed during 1939.

Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933.

No cases of Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Smallpox or Typhus Fever has occurred on any vessel arriving in the port during the year. Rats sent for bacteriological examination were found to be free from Plague infection.

TABLE D. (*Ministry of Health.*)**Cases of Infectious Sickness occurring on Vessels during the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival.**

No cases, to be included in Table D., occurred.

Cases of Sickness which occurred on vessels in the Port during the year.

Date	Name of Vessel	Nationality	Nature of Sickness	Remarks
Jan. 25	s/s "Eugenie Livanos"	Greek	Gastric Catarrh	1 of Crew Treated on board.
Feb. 9	s/s "Effra"	British	Bronchial Catarrh	2nd Officer sent home
,, 10	s/s "Arraiz"	Spanish	Bronchial Catarrh	2nd Cook treated on board.
April 14	s/s "Runa"	British	None	Crew examined
,, 20	s/s "Esmond"	British	Gastric Catarrh	1 of Crew treated on board.
,, 26	s/s "Darcoila"	British	Tonsilitis	1st Engineer sent home.
May 22	s/s "Esmond"	British	Enteritis	1 of Crew sent home
,, 26	s/s "Corbridge"	British	Acute Tonsilitis	Bosun sent to Hospital.
June 5	s/s "Lindenhall"	British	Haemorrhage from lungs.	Ch. Engineer sent to hospital.
,, 23	s/s "Chumleigh"	British	Fractured ribs.	1 of Crew sent to hospital.
July 2	s/s "Birtley"	British	Phlebitis	Passenger sent home
Aug. 3	s/s "Evi Livanos"	Greek	Gastric Ulcer.	1 of Crew sent home
,, 18	s/s "Valdirosa"	Italian	Concussion	1 of Crew sent to hospital.
,, 21	s/s "Edv. Nissen"	Dane	General Catarrh	1 of Crew treated on board.
,, 29	s/s "Esmond"	British	Gastritis	1 of Crew treated on board.
Oct. 4	s/s "Birgitta"	Swedish	Septic foot	1 of Crew treated on board.
Nov. 7	s/s "Absalon"	Dane	General Catarrh	1 of Crew treated on board.
,, 9	s/s "Effra"	British	Injury to ribs.	Ch. Officer sent home.
,, 28	s/s "Integritas"	Italian	Scalded	Several of Crew treated on board.
,, 4	s/s "Omberg"	Swedish	Abdominal Pain ? Appendix	1 of Crew treated on board.
,, 18	s/s "Anten"	Swedish	General Catarrh	Ch. Officer treated on board.

Several seamen suffering from venereal diseases were sent to West Hartlepool Clinic for treatment.

IV. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

Paragraphs 1 to 5 as printed in previous Reports.

DERATISATION OF SHIPS.

Information for Ship Owners and Agents.

Paragraphs 1 to 8 as printed in previous Reports.

RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR 1939.

TABLE E. (*Ministry of Health.*)

(1) On Vessels.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total in Year
Number of Rats	23	—	16	—	3	86	—	19	—	7	7	43	204

26 Mice were also caught and destroyed.

TABLE F. (*Ministry of Health.*)

(2) In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total in Year
Number of Rats	5	—	—	1	7	3	—	2	8	5	25	9	65

12 Mice were also caught and destroyed.

TABLE H.† (*Ministry of Health.*)

Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued during the year.

No. of Ships	NO. OF DERATISATION CERTIFICATES ISSUED					No. of Deratisa- tion Exemption Certificates Issued.	Total Certificates Issued
	After Fumigation with			After Trapping Poison- ing, etc.	Total		
	H.C.N.	Sulphur	H.C.N. and Sulphur				
2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
75	2	1	...	1	4	71	75

† Applicable only to those ports approved by the Minister of Health for the issue of Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates in accordance with the provisions of Article 28 of the International Sanitary Convention, 1926. (Form Port 11.)

V. HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES.

TABLE J. (*Ministry of Health.*)

Classification of Nuisances.

Nationality of Vessel.	Number Inspected during the year	Defects of Original Construction	Structural Defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to Health
British ..	918	1	4	13
Other Nations	604	1	6	32

The above table is a classification of Nuisances and defects found to exist on 1522 vessels inspected during the year. The nuisances or sanitary defects were mainly composed of dirty or verminous crews' quarters and bedding, defective W.C.s and flush pipes, defective drainage and soil pipes, leaky decks and hawse pipes, defective stoves and funnels, defective port lights, etc. All these nuisances have been abated or are in the process of being abated.

VI. FOOD INSPECTION.

1. Action taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1925, Public Health (Imported Food) Amendment Regulations, 1933, The Imported Milk Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927.

There has been very little importation of food and no necessity to take action under the above regulations.

2. Shell Fish. Information respecting any shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Port Health Authority, stating whether they are, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, liable to pollution. Report of any action under the Public Health (Shell-Fish) Regulations, 1915, or the Public Health (Shell-Fish) Regulations, 1934.

There are no Shell-Fish beds or layings under the jurisdiction of this Authority. There are, however, Mussels, Winkles and Cockles, which can be picked from dock gates, walls and rocks, and which are liable to pollution from sewage. For this reason warning notices are posted from time to time drawing the attention of the public to the dangerous consequences arising from the consumption of such shell-fish.

Fresh fish is landed at the Fish Quay, Hartlepool, where it is inspected by the Hartlepool Medical Officer and the Sanitary Inspector. Unsold fish and fish offal are removed to a factory within the Borough of Hartlepool for conversion to fish meal, etc.

3. Number of Samples of Food examined by :

(a) **Bacteriologist.**—Nature of sample. Result of examination.

(b) **Analyst.**—Nature of sample. Result of examination.

There has not been any necessity to submit any samples of food for examination during 1939.

